



NAVAJO COUNTY

Board of Supervisors

Jonathan M. Nez • Jesse Thompson • Jason E. Whiting • Steve Williams • Dawnafe Whitesinger

"We are Navajo County"

April 1, 2015

Arizona State Forestry
WFHF Grant Program
1110 W. Washington, Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Expression of Support for the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside Submission for 2015 Arizona Wildland Fire Hazardous Fuels Grant Program

Dear Grants Manager:

Navajo County is pleased to endorse the application of the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside and other interested stakeholders on the Town's grant submission to Arizona State Forestry for 2015 Arizona Wildland Fire Hazardous Fuels Grant Program funds.

It is Navajo County's desire that the grant funds will provide the catalyst to assist property owners in both the Town and County areas adjacent to United States National Forest Lands. The program will aid to mitigate the fire risk in Wildand Urban Interface (WUI) areas and in minimizing property destruction experienced over the last several decades. The White Mountain Region contains the largest stand of Pondera Pine forest within the United States, keeping our citizens and emergency responders as safe as possible, and preserving forest health is a primary concern and mission of Navajo County.

The grant funds are a great incentive for property owners to create a defensible space, and to enhance the health, safety and welfare of our communities. With the successful award of grant funds, property owners who may not previously removed and thinned hazardous fuels from their property will have greater ability to do so in preparation for our extremely dry and fire prone seasons.

Respectfully,

Dawnafe Whitesinger, Chairwoman
Navajo County Board of Supervisors